



Please note that, as of April 1, 1999, lifesaving cushions are no longer accepted as approved personal flotation devices.

Safe Boaters Your legal responsibilities

As a boater, you are responsible for equipping yourself, for operating your boat safely, and for ensuring the safety of those on board. Operators and/or owners of pleasure craft that do not comply with Canadian laws and regulations could be subject to penalties or fines.

The offence, "careless operation of a vessel," has been added to the *Small Vessel Regulations*. An operator who is doing any of the following could be charged:

- travelling in a way that could adversely affect the safety of people or property considering the weather, boat traffic, hazards or potential hazards, or the number of people around the boat;
- operating a vessel in a careless manner, without consideration for other people or for the factors listed immediately above.

Under the *Convention Act*, enforcement authorities can ticket offenders on the spot instead of requiring them to appear in court. Tickets can be issued for offences such as not having the required safety equipment on board, disobeying speed limits, or careless operation.

At the time of publishing the following provinces were using this system: New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Ontario and Manitoba. Nova Scotia and Quebec are expected to adopt the system in the summer of 1999. Discussions are ongoing with the remaining provinces and territories for use of the Act.



Most frequently asked questions

There are no course providers on the list for my area. Where can I take the course or exam?

The directory of accredited course providers found on our web site is updated regularly and consists of the head office of each of the organizations. By getting in touch with them they will be able to tell you who their representative is for your area. You can find our directory at: www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca

I have taken a course in the past, does it count as proof of competency?

Boating Safety courses taken prior to April 1, 1999 will be recognized as long as you have a certificate proving that you have passed such a course. The certificate that was issued to you when you passed

the course will count as your proof of competency. You will be required to carry the certificate aboard your vessel when you are operating it. If you no longer have the certificate you will be required to pass the accredited exam or take an accredited course to obtain the Operator Card which will be your proof of competency.



What is the minimum equipment that I need in my boat?

It depends on the type of boat that you have. Please consult the table at the back of this flyer, check your safe boating guide or visit our Web site at www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca

What is a buoyant heaving line?

It is any rope or line that floats. It must be of appropriate length for your category of boat.

For Further Information

Contact the Boating Safety Infoline at 1-800-267-6687 or visit the Office of Boating Safety Web site at www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca

You may also contact your closest regional Canadian Coast Guard Office of Boating Safety:

New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island

Office of Boating Safety
Canadian Coast Guard, Maritimes Region
Foot of Parker Street, P.O. Box 1000
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia B2Y 3Z8

Newfoundland

Office of Boating Safety
Canadian Coast Guard, Newfoundland Region
Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Centre (NAFC)
East White Hills Road
P.O. Box 5667
St. John's, Newfoundland A1C 5X1

Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Northwest Territories, Nunavut

Office of Boating Safety
Canadian Coast Guard, Central and Arctic Region
201 N. Front Street, Suite 703
Sarnia, Ontario N7T 8B1

Quebec

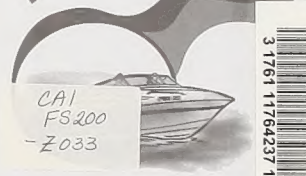
Office of Boating Safety
Canadian Coast Guard, Laurentian Region
101 Champlain Boulevard, 2nd Floor
Quebec, Quebec G1K 7Y7

British Columbia, Yukon Territory

Office of Boating Safety
Canadian Coast Guard, Pacific Region
25 Huron Street
Victoria, British Columbia V8V 4V9



Catch the New Wave



Boating safety is everyone's responsibility

Enjoy Our Waterways Responsibly!

Safe and enjoyable boating means having the right knowledge and the right gear before you head out, and acting responsibly once you're out there. There are new rules in boating safety, the result of the Coast Guard listening to boaters from across the country.

Learn what these improved rules mean for you.

Canada



New Requirements for Boaters Highlights

Mandatory Safety Equipment (as of April 1, 1999)



EQUIPMENT	BOAT LENGTH		
	Motorized pleasure craft: Up to 6 metres	Non-motorized pleasure craft: Up to 6 metres	Pleasure craft: 6 metres to 8 metres
Personal flotation device or lifejacket that fits for each occupant	✓	✓	✓
Buoyant heaving line (15 m)	✓	✓	✓ (or 1 lifebuoy attached to 15 m of buoyant heaving line)
Manual propelling device or an anchor (15 m of cable, rope, chain)	✓	✓	✓
Boiler or manual water pump (with hose)	✓	✓	✓
1 fire extinguisher Class SBC	✓ (if equipped with inboard engine, fixed fuel tank or fuel burning appliance)	✓ (if equipped with fuel burning appliance)	✓ (2 if power-driven and equipped with fuel burning appliance)
Watertight flashlight	✓ (or 3 flares of type A, B or C)		✓
Reboarding device (freeboard > 0.5 m)			✓
Flares	✓ 3 flares of type A, B or C (or a watertight flashlight)		✓ 6 flares of type A, B or C (if vessel can be > 1 mile from shore)
Sound signalling equipment	✓	✓	✓
Navigation lights (Collision Regulations)	✓	✓	✓

* Some exceptions apply. For more detailed information, please consult the Safe Boating Guide or visit our website at www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca

Renseignements
nautiques Boating
Safety Infoline
1-800-267-6687
www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca



Operator Competency Regulations* require operators of pleasure craft fitted with a motor and used for recreational purposes to have proof of competency on board at all times. These requirements are being phased in over ten years.

How this applies to operators** of pleasure craft fitted with a motor and used for recreational purposes	Date at which proof of competency required on board
All operators born after April 1, 1983	September 15, 1999
All operators of craft under 4 m in length, including personal watercraft	September 15, 2002
All operators	September 15, 2009

*These requirements apply in areas outside the Northwest and Nunavut Territories of this time.

**Applies to non-residents operating their pleasure craft in Canadian waters after 45 consecutive days. Operator card or equivalent issued to a non-resident by their state or country will be considered as proof of competency.

Proof of competency can take 1 of 3 forms:

- 1) proof of having taken a boating safety course prior to April 1, 1999.
- 2) a pleasure craft operator card from a Canadian Coast Guard accredited course provider following a test;
- 3) a completed rental-boat safety checklist (for power-driven rental boats).

The operator card is good for life. Boaters can obtain their card after receiving a mark of at least 75% on a Canadian Coast Guard accredited test after having completed an accredited course. Boaters also have the option of taking this test without first completing a course. Professional mariners will see their qualification recognized.

Pleasure Craft / Carte de conducteur
Operator Card / d'embarcation de plaisance

David Robbers 2122334455

Name / Nom Card Number / Numéro de la carte

58 03 18 99 10 15

Date of Birth / Date de naissance Date of Issue / Date d'émission

19 03 18 99 10 15

Card Validity / Validité de la carte

Course provider / Nom du fournisseur de cours

Logo / Logo

Signature of operator / Signature de l'opérateur

Signature of instructor / Signature de l'instructeur

Coast Guard Accredited Test / Essai approuvé par la Garde côtière

Age-horsepower restrictions* come into effect on April 1, 1999. These restrictions prohibit operators under the age of 16 years from operating a craft above specified horsepower limits. This applies to the operation of pleasure craft fitted with a motor and used for recreational purposes. If an operator is accompanied and directly supervised in the pleasure craft by a person 16 years and older, the age-horsepower restrictions do not apply. These restrictions also prohibit persons under 16 years from operating personal watercraft regardless of whether they are accompanied by an adult.

The following table summarizes how these restrictions apply.

Age of Operator	Power restrictions as of April 1, 1999
Under 12 years of age, and not directly supervised**	Can operate a vessel with no more than 10 hp (7.5 KW)
Between 12 years and under 16 years of age, and not directly supervised**	Can operate a vessel with no more than 40 hp (30 KW)
Under 16 years of age	Not allowed to operate a Personal Watercraft
16 years of age and over	No power restrictions

*These requirements apply in areas outside the Northwest and Nunavut Territories of this time.

**"Directly supervised" means: accompanied and directly supervised in the boat by a person 16 years of age or older.